

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 SIG-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 ICA-20 SP-02 PM-05 /081 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY  
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY  
USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY  
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY

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USSALTTWO/CTB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: AUGUST 18 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL  
INTEREST

LONDON FOR AMB/EX, SOFIA FOR AMBASSADOR

1. UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL REPORTED THAT, BY DECISIVE  
MARGIN OF 67-22, RESPONDENTS IN HARRIS SURVEY RELEASED  
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THURSDAY REJECTED CESSATION OF SALT NEGOTIATIONS. UPI SAID  
SURVEY INDICATED 67-24 PERCENT MAJORITY APPROVED OF PRESI-  
DENT CARTER'S CONDEMNATION OF SOVIET UNION'S TREATMENT OF  
DISSIDENTS, BUT BREAKING OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH  
MOSCOW OVER DISSIDENTS ISSUE WENT DOWN 75-15 PERCENT.  
MAJORITY -- 68-20 -- ALSO REJECTED CANCELLATION OF U.S.  
PARTICIPATION IN 1980 SUMMER OLYMPICS TO BE HELD IN MOSCOW.

2. WASHINGTON POST SAID CARTER'S VETO OF 36 BILLION WEAPONS PROCUREMENT BILL REPRESENTS "HIS MOST SERIOUS CHALLENGE TO CONGRESS IN HIS 19 MONTHS AS PRESIDENT." STAFF WRITERS EDWARD WELSH AND MARY RUSSELL SAID DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS GENERALLY PREDICTED VETO WOULD BE SUSTAINED AND SOME ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS ALSO SAID THAT SUSTAINING VETO WILL BE 'EXTREMELY DIFFICULT' AND THAT VENTURE INVOLVES 'HIGH RISKS' POLITICALLY FOR CARTER." WALSH AND RUSSELL SAID

"CARTER ACTED YESTERDAY AMID HIS CONTINUING SLIDE IN PUBLIC OPINION POLLS AND GROWING IMAGE OF HIM AS WEAK IN DEALING WITH CONGRESS. THERE HAVE BEEN SUGGESTIONS IN RECENT DAYS THAT PRESIDENT IS ABOUT TO EMBARK ON MUCH TOUGHER APPROACH TOWARD CONGRESS, WHERE MANY OF HIS MAJOR BILLS REMAIN STALLED OR HAVE ALREADY BEEN KILLED FOR THIS SEASON."

3. KENNETH BACON OF WALL STREET JOURNAL SAID CARTER'S VETO "IS POLITICALLY RISKY BECAUSE IT COMES AT TIME WHEN BOTH CONGRESS AND PUBLIC ARE INCREASINGLY WORRIED THAT CARTER ADMINISTRATION IS FAILING TO MATCH GROWING SOVIET MILITARY POWER." BACON SAID "WHITE HOUSE ALREADY HAS SET UP 'SPECIAL PROJECTS GROUP' TO ORCHESTRATE PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT'S DECISION BEFORE HOUSE VOTES ON AN ATTEMPT TO OVERTURN VETO AFTER ITS UNCLASSIFIED

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LABOR DAY RECESS."

4. NICHOLAS DANILOFF OF UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL SAID THREE NUCLEAR EXPERTS SENT LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER CHALLENGING ENERGY DEPARTMENT (DOE) ARGUMENT THAT PERIODIC NUCLEAR TESTS ARE NEEDED TO CHECK RELIABILITY OF NATION'S NUCLEAR WEAPONS. RICHARD GARWIN, NORRIS BRADBURY AND J. CARSON MARK SAID THEY BELIEVED RELIABILITY OF U.S. NUCLEAR STOCKPILE COULD BE ASSURED WITHOUT FURTHER TESTING. EXPERTS SAID IF CTB TREATY IS CONCLUDED, U.S. COULD STILL TEST NON-NUCLEAR COMPONENTS OF ITS WEAPONS. IF DOUBTS AROSE ABOUT QUALITY OF NUCLEAR COMPONENT, IT COULD BE TOTALLY REPLACED, THEY SAID. DANILOFF SAID THREE SCI-ENTISTS OBJECTED SPECIFICALLY TO TESTIMONY MONDAY BY DONALD KERR, DOE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR DEFENSE PROGRAMS, WHO TOLD HOUSE ARMED SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE THAT IF U.S. SIGNED CTB TREATY, IT WOULD NEED TO MAKE OCCASIONAL TESTS TO CHECK QUALITY OF NUCLEAR STOCKPILE. DANILOFF SAID SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY JOINED THREE SCIENTISTS IN ATTACKING KERR. IN HIS OWN LETTER TO CARTER, KENNEDY CITED KERR'S INSISTENCE ON NEED FOR SOME TESTS. "NOT ONLY DO THESE STATEMENTS UNDERCUT PRESIDENT'S POLICY BUT THEY AMOUNT TO

GROSS MISREPRESENTATION OF IMPLICATIONS OF CTB FOR OUR  
NATIONAL POLICY. FACT IS THAT CTB CAN BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT  
ANY SIGNIFICANT DEGRADATION OF OUR NUCLEAR WEAPONS STOCK-  
PILE. CTB WILL SERVE TO FREEZE NUCLEAR WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY  
-- WHICH IS PRESENTLY CLEARLY IN FAVOR OF U.S." VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, ARMS CONTROL MEETINGS, PRESS SUMMARIES  
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**Review Markings:**  
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